

# Montana DEQ Forest Fire Smoke Advisory

August 08 2007

10:00 AM Wednesday

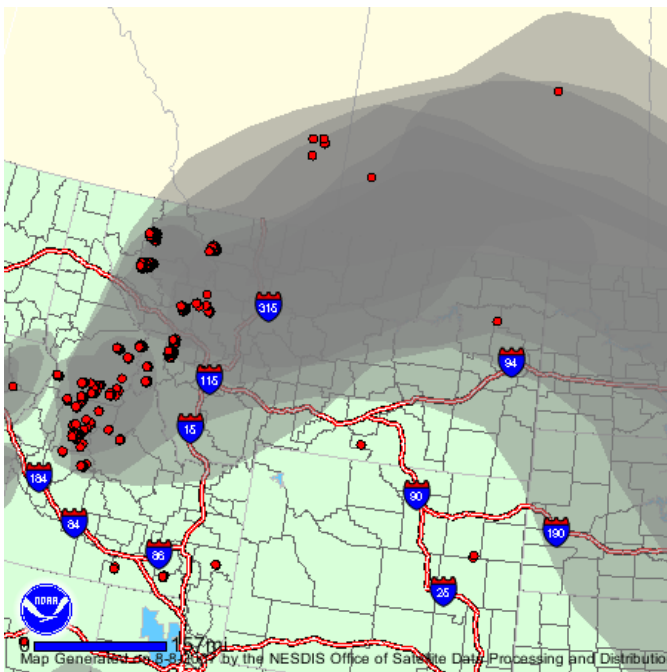
## Current Situation

Most of the smoke produced yesterday has moved off over eastern Montana this morning causing some [MODERATE](#) conditions at Glasgow, Wolf Point, and Lewistown this morning. Residual smoke is trapped in the northern Flathead, Southern Bitterroot, Rock Creek, Clark Fork, and Helena valleys producing [UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE](#) levels in Whitefish, Kalispell, Hamilton, Butte, and Helena. [MODERATE](#) conditions are left in Polson, Ronan, Missoula, Bozeman, Cut Bank, and Great Falls. More smoke aloft will be mixing down over western Montana and west winds will be fanning the flames on the active fires, see the forecast below. Residents near active fires or experiencing noticeable smoke levels should use the [VISIBILITY GUIDELINES](#) to determine smoke levels in their area and guide their activity decisions.

Morning satellite photo centered on Great Falls:



This morning's analysis from NOAA's satellite services division shows the active fires in Montana and the smoke plumes combining and spreading downwind (the analyzed smoke is based on yesterday's satellite coverage, the fire detects are based on last night's satellite coverage)



Red indicates hot spot detected. Grey represents smoke seen by satellite.  
Fire size is exaggerated for visibility at this scale.

To identify individual fires on graphic above go here:

[http://activefiremaps.fs.fed.us/lg\\_fire2.php](http://activefiremaps.fs.fed.us/lg_fire2.php)

Real time particulate information is currently available in most of the larger urban areas from several different sources including: DEQ run PM-10 BAMS and PM2.5 BAMS, CS&KT run PM-10 TEOMS, NWS ASOS visibility monitors, and USFS remote access Nephelometers and BAMS.

This morning's smoke report is below, comparing particulate levels where we have information to MDEQ's Forest Fire health advisory levels.

## Updated 10 AM August 08, 2007

Locations and severity of forest fire smoke reports since midnight of the date above at reporting stations.

<a href="#">HAZARDOUS</a>	
<a href="#">VERY UNHEALTHY</a>	
<a href="#">UNHEALTHY</a>	
<a href="#">UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS</a>	Whitefish T24 Kalispell T24 Hamilton T24 Helena T8 Butte T8
<a href="#">MODERATE</a>	Polson T24 Ronan T24 Missoula T24 Bozeman Vis(3) Cut Bank Vis(1) Great Falls Vis(2) Lewistown Vis(5) Glasgow Vis(6)

	Wolf Point Vis(1)
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T1(x)	One-hour TEOM or BAM value (number of values)
T8(x)	Eight-hour average TEOM or BAM value(number of values)
T24	24 hour average TEOM or BAM value
Vis(x)	Visibility value(number of hours)
Vis(am/pm) (est)	Visibility value from twice/day reporting stations estimate

Local impacts in areas immediately adjacent to active fires are expected to exceed some or all of the advisory levels. DEQ recommends the use of local [visibility guidelines](#) to evaluate possible health risks and make informed activity decisions.

## Forecast

Strong westerly winds are forecast across the state today and Red Flag warnings have been posted over most of the active fires. This will likely produce large plumes of smoke this afternoon and evening stretching out to the east of the active fires. Smoke aloft will mix down to the surface later this morning for some noticeable short term impacts under the thickest part of the smoke plume aloft. Most of the areas that had smoke yesterday will see it again today and the wind shift will likely bring more smoke into southwest Montana in the Dillon and Bozeman areas. Residents near active fires need to pay close attention to conditions in their area and use the [visibility guidelines](#) to guide their activity decisions as the situation changes.

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